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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,886	02/12/2002	Feng-Hui Lin	0941-0405P	3557

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EXAMINER

ISMAIL, SHAWKI SAIF

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,886

Applicant(s)

FENG-HUI LIN

Examiner

Shawki S Ismail

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2002.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-16 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. Claim 1 recites the limitation

"the receiving number" in line 4,

"the related information" in line 5,

"the email characteristics" in line 9,

"the email address" in line 12, and

"the recipient field" in line 13.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

5. Claim 3 recites the limitation

"the specific email record" in line 3.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

7. Claims 1-16, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Barchi** U.S. Patent No. **6,507,866**.

8. As to claim 1, Barchi multi-stage email interception method, comprising the steps of:

receiving an email message (see Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 59-62);

querying the receiving number corresponding to the email message from an array according to the related information of the email message (Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 44-54);

rejecting the email message if the receiving number is higher than a first setting value and the email conforms to the email characteristics recorded in a specific email record (col. 6, lines 38-53); and

accepting and forwarding the email message to a specific mailbox if the receiving number is higher than a third setting value and the email address of the recipient of the email message does not appear in the recipient field of the email message (col. 6, lines 26-37).

9. As to claim 2, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 further accepting the email message first and then deleting the email message if the receiving number is higher than a second setting value and the email address of the recipient of the email

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message does not appear in the recipient field of the email message (col. 8, lines 33-67).

10. As to claim 3, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 2 further recording the email characteristics corresponding to the email message into the specific email record if the receiving number is higher than the second setting value and the email address of the recipient of the email message does not appear in the recipient field of the email message (col. 10, lines 17-26).

11. As to claim 4, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 further recording the related information of the email message into the array (col. 6, lines 26-37).

12. As to claim 5, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the array is a first-in-first-out array (see Fig. 2).

13. As to claim 6, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the related information comprises the subject of the email message (col. 2, lines 14-24).

14. As to claim 7, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the related information comprises the text information of the email message (col. 2, lines 14-24).

15. As to claim 8, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email characteristics comprise the network address of the host sending the email message (col. 1, lines 42-55).

16. As to claim 9, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email characteristics comprise the sender information (col. 1, lines 42-55).

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17. As to claim 10, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the sender information comprise the name of the sender (col. 1, lines 42-55).

18. As to claim 11, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the sender information comprise the email address of the sender (col. 1, lines 42-55).

19. As to claim 12, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email characteristics comprise the subject (col. 2, lines 14-24).

20. As to claim 13, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient field comprises the field of direct recipients (col. 2, lines 14-24).

21. As to claim 14, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient field comprises the field of copy recipients (col. 2, lines 14-24).

22. As to claim 15, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient field comprises the field of hidden copy recipients (col. 2, lines 14-24).

23. As to claim 16, Barchi teaches the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first setting value is larger than the second setting value, and the second setting value is larger than the third setting value (col. 6, lines 38-53)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shawki Ismail
Patent Examiner
March 7, 2005



HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER